

Table 3-16: Denali National Park and Preserve Registered Mountaineering Activities, 1995-2001.

Routes	Expeditions #	Climbers & Mountaineers #	% Summiting	User Nights
West Buttress				
1997	235	894	54%	14,983
1998	281	1,027	36%	18,058
1999	263	996	45%	16,399
2000	279	1,044	53%	17,500
2001	292	1,109	60%	18,570
Annual Average	270	1,014	50%	17,102
West Buttress Traverse				
1997	4	35	74%	764
1998	4	40	50%	804
1999	5	34	18%	697
2000	8	39	62%	867
2001	8	45	73%	901
Annual Average	6	39	56%	807
Muldrow				
1997	5	34	65%	942
1998	5	27	70%	746
1999	5	26	46%	816
2000	5	22	50%	616
2001	2	19	0%	513
Annual Average	4	26	46%	727
Other Routes				
1997	49	147	28%	2,760
1998	29	72	21%	1,441
1999	44	126	37%	2,345
2000	39	100	42%	1,693
2001	56	132	52%	2,347
Annual Average	43	115	36%	2,117
Total McKinley				
1997	293	1,110	51%	19,449
1998	319	1,166	36%	21,047
1999	317	1,182	43%	20,257
2000	331	1,205	52%	20,616
2001	358	1,305	59%	22,331
Annual Average	324	1,194	48%	20,740

Source: Denali National Park and Preserve Climber Database

Registration is voluntary for ascents on all other peaks in Denali National Park and Preserve. On an annual basis, approximately 10% of all registered individuals cancel their reservations after paying the initial \$25 deposit (NPS 2002c).

The total cost of mountaineering on any of the peaks in Denali National Park and Preserve depends on whether or not the ascent will be guided, the peak, the route, time of year, and the amount of personal gear already possessed by the individual.

Climbers and mountaineers are not restricted based on experience levels or other subjective factors. Anyone who legally registers is entitled to a permit. No one has ever been restricted from climbing in the park except for illegally guided expeditions. Numerous people with disabilities have successfully reached the summit of Mount McKinley.

- National Park Service Ranger Camps

The National Park Service currently maintains ranger camps at the 7,200-foot level and the 14,200-foot level on Mount McKinley from the end of April through early July. NPS mountaineering rangers and NPS volunteers staff these camps. In addition, NPS ranger patrols ascend and descend the 14 miles of the popular West Buttress route throughout the climbing season.

The 7,200-foot ranger camp serves as the base camp and remote airstrip for expeditions on Mount McKinley and surrounding peaks. The primary mission of the 14,200-foot ranger camp is to have acclimatized personnel available for high altitude rescues. Both camps provide emergency medical